



THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



April 2019

The Rector's Roundabout

As this is my first Eagle and Lamb column, I cannot help but thinking that the first words I should write should be THANK YOU! Thanksgiving to the Holy Spirit who guided me to accept Robin's invitation to come to St. John's as a supply priest that first Sunday and for moving within the hearts of the Search Committee and Vestries during their deliberations in calling a new rector. A huge "Thank You" to Robin Leonard and Deacon Nick in keeping things afloat during the transition process; and a big THANK YOU to all of you who made Melissa, Arlo, Emmett and myself feel so welcomed with each trip – you all made the decision much easier for all of us.

My next word is "change" – change shows life, thought and opportunity, change doesn't have to be negative, it can be a very positive and powerful event in a person's or church's life. The definition of insanity is "to do the same thing over and over again and expect a different result." These words of Albert Einstein may seem harsh, but when taken in the right spirit should help navigate change a bit easier. Please know that any change will be made for the good of St. John's and will not be for the sake of change, but will be discussed, prayed about, and communicated. I also want to encourage any of you that if you disagree, feel hurt, or if you need to vent about something, please come to me – I have broad shoulders (and two very large ears) and have no problem discussing anything (outside of the confessional or similarly situated seals of confidentiality) with you and will do so with complete transparency.

My third word of this column is "come home." If it has been awhile since you have been to church, whatever the reason, I personally invite you to come home. If you want to talk about what has kept you away, I am here to listen. My calling as a priest is to help you gain eternal life and the life of the church is less when one of the sheep is lost. As your shepherd I am calling out to you to come home and bring someone with you! The Episcopal Church welcomes you!

My last word for this month is to "enjoy." Enjoy this adventure that the Spirit is taking us on – it may not always be smooth sailing, but enjoy it! In my 12 years of ordained ministry I have come upon a profound realization in my life and the life of the Church at large: The Church is divine, run by poor sinners (myself included), but divine as the spotless Bride of Christ. All we have to do is get out of the way and let the beauty of the Church shine through us and the good work that we do as St. John's.

Like a good episode of *Life in Pieces* my four short stories are: Thank you, change, come home and enjoy. I pray that each and every one of you experience the profound love of our Savior this Lenten season; it is this same Savior who underwent the mockery of His Kingship, scourging and crucifixion for us, His Bride – the Church.

For the Greater Glory of God,
Fr. Seth

Easter Service Schedule

April 18 - Maundy Thursday Service-7 p.m.

**April 19 - Good Friday - 12 noon - Stations of the Cross
7 p.m.- Passion of Our Lord**

April 20 - Saturday- 8:00 p.m.- The Great Vigil of Easter

April 21- Sunday - 9:00 a.m.- Easter Holy Eucharist

Senior Warden's Wafflings

It is with the greatest of pleasure for me to announce the calling of our next Rector, Fr. Seth Wymer. Fr. Seth has been the Priest in Residence at All Saints Episcopal Church, New Albany. He will be relocating to Lancaster along with his wife Melissa, their sons, Arlo and Emmett and dog Charley.

Fr. Seth will officially begin his calling to St John's and St Paul's on March 31st. The official installation by the Bishop will happen late summer or early fall. Once we have a firm date, I will let you all know.

In a Diocese of Southern Ohio posting, Fr. Seth quotes "I do not believe in chance encounters but rather that the Holy Spirit guides our actions and interactions." I believe this statement to be very true, and the Holy Spirit has put us together for a reason. The future is very exciting for St John's, so come along and be a part of the journey.

Please join us on April 6th at 6:00pm for a good old St John's fried chicken pot luck dinner. Thank you to Robin and Steve Ball for providing the fried chicken. Please sign up for a side dish or desert to share (sign-up sheet at the back of the church or email me at roblnrd@aol.com).

I would like to thank all the people on the search committee and Vestry for their time and dedication to help make this happen, and for the patience of the congregation.

In other business, the Vestry has approved the purchase of new cassocks for the choir and gloves for the acolytes. An order has been placed to repair the large front window.

The Lancaster shelter house has been reserved for the church picnic for May 26th. Please mark it on your calendar.

Sincerely,

Robin Leonard, Senior Warden

The Refuge, a faith-based Christian Ministry

The Refuge is a faith-based Christian Ministry that started in 1999. For the past 20 years, we have offered FREE (no cost, no insurance needed) inpatient rehab for drug and alcohol addiction.

Starting on Thursday, March 28, at 10 a.m., we will start a new weekly intake in Lancaster for our Men's and Women's ministries. We know that like many places in Ohio, the area has been hit hard by the opioid crisis. We want to make it as easy as possible for people to have access to help. It will be held at Maple Street United Methodist Church, 438 E. Wheeling St. in Lancaster. This new orientation in Lancaster will just help reach even more people struggling with addiction.

You can find more information about this new intake (we call it "Orientation") at <http://therefugeohio.org/lancaster>

Birthdays

- 8 Jim Chilenski
- 10 Nanci Allen
- 12 Nicole Sutter
- 14 Lisa Rosser
- 15 Gary Rowley
- 19 Robin Ball
- 25 Margaret Baker
Helen Johnston
- 26 Karin Howard
- 29 Tierney Carter
Chad Shook
- 29 Mary Kraker

Congratulations!!

Congratulations, Robin Leonard on becoming a U.S. citizen after 24 years in this country.

Don't Forget to support the Vestry's outreach to the parents of new born babies at the Fairfield Medical Center by donating diapers, wipes, etc.

April Parish Health Luncheon

The April Parish Health Luncheon will be Wednesday the 24th after the noon Eucharist. Come and fellowship with members of your parish family.

Wedding Anniversaries

- 8 Bob and Laura Wright (95)
- 12 Ralph and Reda Kittle (69)
- 14 Robin and Ann Leonard (79)
- 21 Brian and Cecilia Davidson (90)
- 26 Craig and Lori Bockman (97)
- 29 Denise Denton and William Nunley (06)

Please Don't Forget the Hungry of Fairfield County. Non-perishable food items may be deposited in the basket at the back of the church and will be taken to the Lutheran Food Pantry by Bob Slagle.

Attention! Parents of Graduating High School or College Seniors

If you have a high school or college student graduating this year, be sure to get his/her bio to Jean Hammer by April 15th for inclusion in the May "Eagle and Lamb."

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 1 Kirsten Carr (87)
- 3 Lisa Rosser (94)
- 6 Holly Coffill (96)
- 9 Katie Shook (00)
- 10 Amy Eyman (66)
- 11 Fr. Bill Pursley (54)
- 12 Judy Furlow (41)
- 13 Diana Turpin (45)
- 16 Alanna Hurdley (95)
Caitlyn Hurdley (95)
- 18 Nickie Leckrone (43)
Alex Shook (99)
- 19 Jim Chilenski (59)
- 23 Hannah Hurdley (00)

Parish Potluck to Welcome Fr. Seth & Family

Please plan to attend a parish potluck on Saturday, April 6th at 6 pm to welcome Fr. Seth, Melissa,



and sons. Steve and Robin Ball have generously agreed to donate fried chicken for the dinner.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church to let us know if you are coming and also for you to indicate whether you can bring a side dish or dessert.

Attention, Altar Guild Members

Please plan to help decorate for Palm Sunday on Saturday, April 13 at 10 a.m. and for Easter on Saturday, April 20 at 10 a.m.

Deacon's Detour

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Easter brings so many promises of God to us. Life is stronger than death, love can overcome hate, goodness ultimately triumphs over evil and glory with God in Heaven are our destiny. I pray that Jesus may live in all our hearts, that we may always embrace Him with love and gratitude.

As we begin this exciting time with our new rector and his family, may I once again share this prayer with you all.

O God, as we are entering this time in the life of St. John's and St. Paul's, refresh us with a new vision and help us to meet well, all duties and responsibilities that come to us.

May we show hospitality to our new rector, Father Seth and his family and welcome them with our support and prayers. Fill him, O Lord, with the knowledge of your will in all wisdom and understanding.

We beseech you for the touch of your Spirit, that his heart may yield to you in obedience, reverence and confidence.

Endue our hearts with gratitude and love for the blessings of this new ministry that will not only give joy and comfort but also, by example and influence, will lead others to love and serve you.

Impel us constantly through this new ministry to gracious acts of kindness done to others in the Master's name, and for His sake, that we become strength to the weak, hope to the despondent, joy to the sorrowing, power to the tempted, so that we may so live that through us your kingdom may in part come and your will more fully be done among all people.

Grant that your servant, Father Seth, may find his strength and dedication from the leading of your Holy Spirit.

We thank you for the new opportunities that are ours. Help us to meet them with courage and trust in you. May we be filled with the gratitude of the Savior, Jesus, who lifts us from the burden of sin and anxiety and gather this family about yourself and protect us.

In the name of the one who calls us beyond ourselves, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

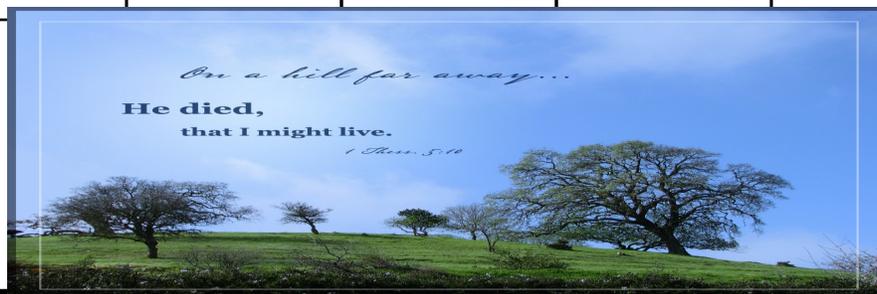
May His love and His peace fill our hearts, our lives, our homes and our families. God bless each and every one of you and your loved ones.

The Lord has risen indeed!
Deacon Nick+

St. John's Episcopal Church

APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00P Choral Evensong	2 8:00P AA Meeting	3 10:30 Bible Study 12 noon H.E.	4 7:00P Choir Practice	5	6
7 9:00 HC 10:00 Fellowship Breakfast	8 7:00P Choral Evensong	9 8:00P AA Meeting	10 10:30 Bible Study 12 noon H.E.	11 7:00P Choir Practice	12	13
14 9:00 HC 10:00 Fellowship Breakfast 10:15 Vestry Mtg. Palm Sunday	15 7:00P Choral Evensong	16 8:00P AA Meeting	17 10:30 Bible Study 12 noon H.E.	18 7:00P Maundy Thursday Service E & L deadline	19 12 noon Stations of the Cross 7 pm The Passion of our Lord	20 8:00 pm The Great Vigil of Easter
21 9:00 HC Easter 	22 7:00P Choral Evensong	23 8:00P AA Meeting	24 10:30 Bible St. 12:00 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Parish Health Lunch.	25 7:00P Choir Practice	26	27
28 9:00 HC 10:00 Fellowship Breakfast	29 7:00P Choral Evensong	30 8:00P AA Meeting				



Farewell and Welcome

On July 1st Anno Domini 2018, we began a transitional pastoral relationship. This letter formally ends it. It has been a full and eventful nine months. Much has happened. Most importantly has been the self-examination in which you have all participated. From this has come a renewed commitment to the larger church and a reawakened sense of the ministry of St. John's Church, Lancaster and St. Paul's Church, Logan.

The bulk of this year's ministry had to focus on the search process and the Search Committee. They are to be commended for having done a fine job. Each member is to be congratulated for their contributions. The Parish Profile is a testament to the quality of the Committee's labors. The fruits of the Committee's efforts are to be found in the calling of a new rector.

Just a few weeks ago the Vestry was presented with a single candidate and the consensus was to issue a call to The Rev. Seth Wymer. I will leave it to Fr. Seth to introduce himself, but most of you know him from his serving as a supply priest in both parishes many times. I know that you will want to keep him and his family in your prayers as they become new members of this community. I am sure you will welcome him with all the warmth and generosity with which I was received. Also, I would like to mention the efforts of several others who aided my ministry immeasurably: The Rev. Deacon Nick England, Jean and Tom Hammer, the office volunteers, and so many more. In fact I could not do my job without all of you. Your prayers, singing of hymns, conversations, and fellowship have all contributed to my having a renewed and refreshed faith in our Lord.

It is hard for me to leave these parishes. In other places when it was my time to leave there were people I knew that I would miss, but on the whole I don't miss the congregations. When I arrived at St. John's and St. Paul's I had to travel a great distance from my home and family. The kindness and graciousness with which I was greeted speaks of a true, devout, and mature Christian faith and this helped me endure the separation. Such faith exists here in abundance.

This is the essence of what I shall miss here: the community of faith. Of course here too there will be individuals that I shall miss but the greatest gift has been the sense of a community of compassion. I am grateful for having been allowed to be your priest. I shall miss you all. You are ever in my prayers and I shall continue to give thanks to God for your presence and witness of Christ's actions in Southern Ohio.

May God Bless You.
Rob +

Thanks from Saymude

Best greetings in the name of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. My name is Saymude Greene, freshman student at the Stella Maris Polytechnic, I am studying Environmental science and is 20 years of age. I will like to extend my thanks and appreciation to you for your continuous and endless support towards my education for which I am so much Greatful. Our second semester has ended and by the grace of the almighty God I was able to make a successful passed with a GPA of 3.16. Thanks for the funds you donated to partnership in ministry in Liberia (PIMIL) it was through your donation I was able to complete my second semester in college. May God richly bless you all.

Sincerely yours, Student Saymude Greene

April 2019 Serving Schedule

April 7	9:00 AM	Readings
Chalice Bearers	Ivan Smith & Holly Coffill	Isaiah 43:16-21
Acolytes	Libby Garbrandt & Joanna Carr	Psalms 126
Lectors	Sarah Perlow & Frankie Mathias	Philippians 3:4-14
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Mike Whiley	John 12:1-8
Altar Guild	Sarah Perlow & Bobbi Beebe	Set-up: Mid Hall & Janet Kling
April 14 PALM SUNDAY	9:00 AM	Readings
Chalice Bearers	Tom & Jean Hammer	Isaiah 50:4-9
Acolytes	Nikki Sutter & Asher Carr	Psalms 31:9-16
Lectors	Charlie Voss & Caitlin Hurdley	Philippians 2:5-11
Ushers	Steve Wood & Bob Slagle	Luke 19:28-40
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Set-up: All Altar Guild Members
April 21 EASTER	9:00 AM	Readings
Chalice Bearers	Jim Merton & Ann Rickson	Isaiah 65:17-25
Acolytes	1st Crucifer – Nikki Sutter 2nd Crucifer – Parker Hill (hold book) Torches – Asher Carr & Joanna Carr	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24
Lectors	Ivan Smith & Joan Ream	I Corinthians 15:19-26
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Bob Slagle	John 20:1-18
Altar Guild	Peggy Merton & Gita Sadoni	Set-up: All Altar Guild Members
April 28	9:00 AM	Readings
Chalice Bearers	Robin Harris & Frankie Mathias	Acts 5:27-32
Acolytes	Parker Hill & Joanna Carr	Psalms 150
Lectors	Holly Coffill & Jim Merton	Revelation 1:4-8
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Robin Leonard	John 20:19-31
Altar Guild	Sally Stallsmith & Frankie Mathias	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl

****If you are unable to serve, please arrange for a replacement from the list below. If you cannot find one, please let Deacon Nick know by Saturday evening (740-974-8593).**

CHALICE BEARERS	ALTAR GUILD	ACOLYTES	LECTORS	USHERS
Holly Coffill 740-652-9124	Bobbie Beebe 614-837-0838	Asher & Joanna Carr 740-385-1356	Holly Coffill 740-652-9124	Robin Leonard 740-808-4814
Tom & Jean Hammer 740-687-6134	Mid Hall 740-654-5819	Libby Garbrandt 740-653-9639	Caitlin Hurdley 740-243-0295	Bob Slagle 740-681-1044
Robin Harris 740-215-2311	Jean Hammer 740-687-6134	Parker Hill 740-974-8118	Frankie Mathias 740-653-5559	Mike Whiley 740-503-0953
Frankie Mathias 740-653-5559	Janet Kling 217-201-0111	Hannah Hurdley 740-654-7831	Sarah Perlow 740-654-4459	Steve Wood 740-653-7435
Jim Merton 740-974-4838	Frankie Mathias 740-653-5559	Nicole Sutter 740-652-9124	Joan Ream 740-687-4554	
Ann Rickson 740-422-9034	Peg Merton 740-974-7137		Ann Rickson 740-422-9034	
Ivan Smith 740-503-8880	Sarah Perlow 740-654-4459		Ivan Smith 740-654-3859	
	Gita Sadoni 740-243-8809		Charlie Voss 740-654-4225	
	Sally Stallsmith 740-654-6592			
	Carol Uhl 740-569-6190			

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

134 North Broad Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH STAFF

PRESIDING BISHOP: The Most Rev'd Michael B. Curry
BISHOP OF DIOCESE OF SO. OHIO: The Rt. Rev'd Thomas E. Breidenthal
RECTOR: The Rev'd Seth Wymer
DEACON: The Rev'd Mr. Nick England
CHOIRMASTER: Dr. Doug Carr
ORGANIST: Thurlow Weed
FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Janet Kling
FINANCIAL CONSULTANT: Lowell Stallsmith
TREASURER: Robin Harris
VERGER: Jim Hall
MISTRESS of ACOLYTES: Caitlin Hurdley
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Jean Hammer

Parish Office (740) 653-3052
Rector (740) 624-5818

Members of Vestry

Robin Leonard (Senior Warden)	740-808-4814
John Eyman (Junior Warden)	740-503-6817
Steve Ball (20)	740-654-7875
Don Barker (21)	813-843-0343
Holly Coffill (21)	740-652-9124
Bob Slagle (22)	740-681-1044
Carol Uhl (20)	740-569-6190
Charlie Voss (22)	740-503-5246
Joanna Carr	740-385-1356